



Colonial Pipeline CR251 Rupture Pelham, Shelby County, Alabama Situation Report #4

November 3, 2016

1800

NRC #1162982

INCIDENT DESCRIPTION

On October 31 at 1455 hours, a Colonial Pipeline contractor struck a 36" below ground transmission gasoline pipeline (Line 1) while finishing a permanent repair necessitated by the previous pipeline rupture that occurred on September 9. The gasoline pipeline exploded and caught fire. At 1656 hours, Colonial Pipeline reported the incident to the National Response Center. One worker was fatally injured and six workers were transported to local hospitals.

The exact amount of the release is unknown; however, Colonial Pipeline has estimated that between 3,300 and 4,000 barrels of gasoline were released. Both main pipelines were shut down. The local fire department responded and contained the fire around the ruptured site. The Alabama Forestry Commission and Shelby County Highway Department constructed an earthen berm to contain the gasoline and cut a fire break. The fire continues to burn at this time. Line 2 was restarted at 2250 hours on October 31 at a reduced rate.

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), Shelby County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), US Department of Interior (DOI) Region 4, have been notified. EPA, ADEM, Colonial Pipeline, and local emergency responders are on scene and have integrated into the Unified Command (UC).

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

- EPA responded to an email inquiry from Conner Sheets with AL.com.
- Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA) Administrator Marie Therese Dominguez toured site activities and met with federal officials on-site.

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING

EPA's integration into the Colonial Pipeline Incident Command structure will provide myriad of benefits to the response and further ensure operations run successfully. This will be accomplished through working directly with the Environmental Unit on sampling and monitoring, the Planning Section, safety, and with overall operations related to this unfortunate incident. All EPA staff, USCG GST and support contractors have embedded into the Colonial incident management structure.

Current number	Number
EPA	5
USCG GST	4
START	5
Total Response Personnel	approximately 120

CURRENT RELEASE AND RECOVERY ESTIMATES

Current Release Estimate – 3,300 bbl to 4,000 bbls¹

REPORTING SCHEDULE

Situation Reports (SITREPS) will be delivered daily at 1800 hours EST.

CURRENT OPERATIONS

1) Environmental Sampling and Impacts

a. Air Monitoring

- CTEH continued performing 24-hour mobile air monitoring near the incident area, the homes located northwest of the incident area, and along County Road 1, County Road 12, County Road 13, River Road, and Crest Road. Air monitoring results from 0600 hours CDT on November 2, through 0600 hours CDT on November 3 indicated no detections above site action levels, except for particulate matter 2.5 micrometers or less (PM2.5). Air monitoring results indicated spikes in the PM2.5 worker (2.69 mg/m³) action levels near the incident area and along River Road near the residences located northwest of the incident area.
- CTEH continued analytical air sampling at five locations near the homes located northwest (Bent Pine Drive) and southeast of the incident area and along County Roads 1, 13, and 251. Analytical air monitoring began at three locations on October 31, 2016, at the homes located northwest of the incident area on Bent Pine Drive and County Road 13. On November 2, analytical air sampling was expanded to the five locations listed above. The air sample located on Bent Pine Drive was moved to the intersection of Bent Pine Drive and County Road 13.
- CTEH obtained a subscription ID and password to upload air sampling data to the SCRIBE database. This will allow EPA to analyze air monitoring results in real-time.

b. Water/Sediment Sampling and National Resources Damage Assessment (NRDA)

¹ 1 barrel (bbl) = 42 gallons

- Colonial Pipeline contractor completed the environmental sampling plan, as well as, prepared for performing a natural resources damage assessment (NRDA).
- Environmental Planning Specialists (EPS) collected surface water samples at three locations along the Cahaba River and a collocated surface water and sediment sample at two location along Shades Creek.

2) Local Response Actions

- Distillates Line #2 was unearthed during the night and inspected by Colonial Pipeline (CP). CP determined there was no damage and returned to the pipeline to service.
- TORs (Threaded O-Rings) were placed overnight in accordance with the Drain-Up Plan² and CP has been constructing an earthen berm around the leak area while an evacuation plan and other operational considerations are being vetted prior to extinguishing the fire.
- Local fire personnel monitored the fire during the night and through the day as it continued to burn.
- The air space restriction to 1,500 feet and a 1.5 mile radius around the incident area remains in effect until 0000 hours on November 4, 2016. The temporary flight restriction has been extended until 0000 hours on November 7, 2016.
- The site decontamination plan was completed and approved.
- There was a berm created down below the leak site where the fire is burning. There are also containment and recovery measures in place for evacuation of product from the pipeline and other pipeline operations.

3) Health and Safety

- National Transportation Safety Board personnel continued to conduct site incident investigation.
- Health and Safety will be elevated over the next operational period as pipeline work is taking place.

4) Fuel Supply

- Line #2 is in full operation, it moves heavier/industrial product (e.g. diesel, jet fuel, kerosene).
- Region 4 worked with EPA Headquarters to address fuel waiver requests from the impacted States. Today, November 3, there was a fuel waiver granted for a reformulated gas blend, signed by the EPA Administrator.

² The Drain-Up Plan is a plan to evacuate product from the pipeline.

PLANNED RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- Continue water and sediment sampling at three locations along the Shades Creek as access permits.
- Continue efforts to gain access for well water sampling at residences near the incident area.
- Continue efforts to evacuate gasoline from the pipeline in preparation of repair at the incident site.
- Complete installation of interceptor trench and underflow dam in the pond southeast of the incident area.
- Continue air monitoring and sampling through CTEH. Continue air monitoring through USCG GST.
- Complete preparation of the Restoration of Services Plan (RSP).
- Continue preparing and releasing updates for the media outlets.

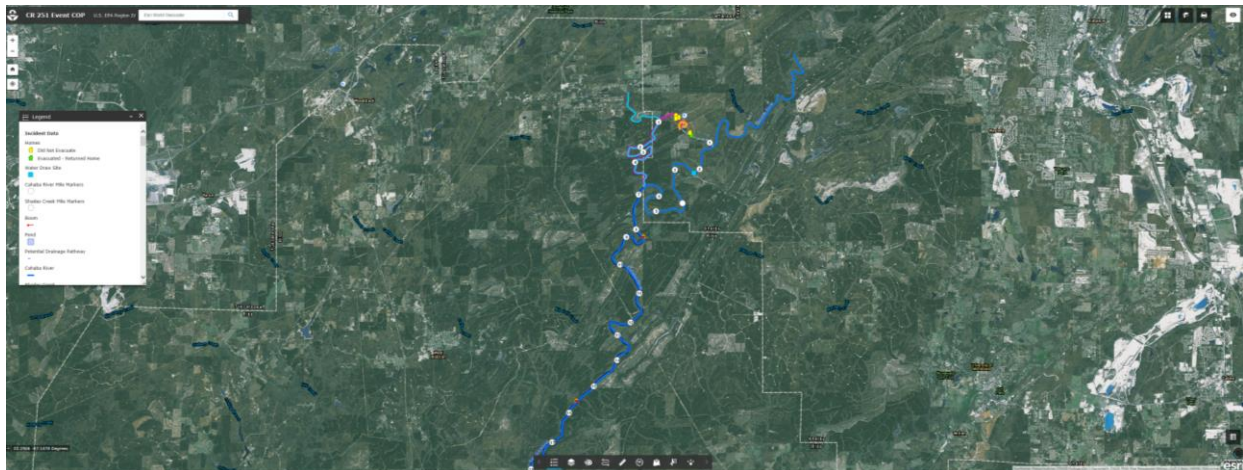


Figure 1.
Common Operating Picture of the incident.